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October 19, 2001

Jc 857 U.S. PTO  
09/981743  
10/19/01

## BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of Roland BERNARD, Eric CHEVALIER, Gloria SOGAN  
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONDITIONING THE ATMOSPHERE  
IN A PROCESS CHAMBER  
Assignee: ALCATEL  
Our Ref: Q66747

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Continuation Application of pending prior Application No. 09/614,591 (Confirmation No. Not Yet Known ) filed July 12, 2000 of Roland BERNARD, Eric CHEVALIER, Gloria SOGAN entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONDITIONING THE ATMOSPHERE IN A PROCESS CHAMBER.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and abstract, 2 sheets of drawings, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application. Also enclosed is a PTO Form 1449 listing references cited by applicant and/or the examiner during prosecution of the parent application.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 1763.

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

--This is a continuation of Application No. 09/614,591 (Confirmation No. Not Yet Known ) filed July 12, 2000, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

Priority is claimed from April 20, 2000 based on French Application No. 0005094. The priority document was filed in parent Application No. 09/614,591.

Cancel claims: 1-20

A Preliminary Amendment is being submitted herewith.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

|                    |   |   |    |   |   |         |   |          |
|--------------------|---|---|----|---|---|---------|---|----------|
| Total claims       | 8 | - | 20 | = | x | \$18.00 | = | \$ .00   |
| Independent claims | 1 | - | 3  | = | x | \$84.00 | = | \$ .00   |
| Base Fee           |   |   |    |   |   |         |   | \$740.00 |

**TOTAL FILING FEE** **\$740.00**

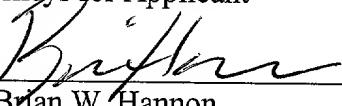


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A check for the statutory fee of \$740.00 is attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,  
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
Attorneys for Applicant

By:   
Brian W. Hannon  
Registration No. 32,778